

Vocational Education

Mission

To provide Hoosiers with lifelong learning opportunities that prepare them for further education and employment in high skill, high wage careers.

Summary of Activities

Vocational education in Indiana is provided through a comprehensive system of education, training, and employment. School corporations, area vocational schools and postsecondary institutions comprise the public vocational and technical education system that prepares youth and adults to enter and advance in the workforce. The Indiana Commission on Vocational and Technical Education (ICVTE) has responsibility for setting policy and developing and overseeing a long-range state plan for vocational and technical education, which is implemented by the **Department of Workforce Development (DWD)** and the **Department of Education (DOE)**. ICVTE has approved *A Strategy for Building a World-Class System of Vocational and Technical Education in Indiana*. This plan gives direction to the state in the preparation of the workforce through Indiana's public delivery system for vocational and technical education.



State funds are distributed to local schools through the school tuition support appropriation, with schools receiving funding based on vocational course offerings and enrollment. The DWD distributes federal vocational education funds under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act and has provided competitive grants for federal Technical Preparation (Tech Prep) programs through the Indiana Career Majors Initiative. The DOE Office of Career and Technical Education provides support to workforce development initiatives such as Tech Prep programs, technology-based instructional programs, and partnerships with local businesses that provide work-based learning opportunities for students planning to enter the workforce directly after high school and for those interested in pursuing further education and training programs.

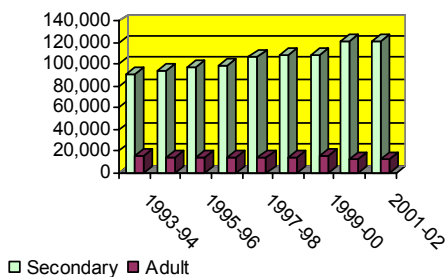
External Factors

Technological advances in the workplace and increasing educational requirements present constantly changing goals and expectations for Indiana students. These advances require frequent updates to vocational education curriculum and classroom strategies. The workplace demands more today than a strong back and a good work ethic—it demands critical thinkers capable of applying technical knowledge.

Evaluation and Accomplishments

During the 2001-02 school year, 40 percent of all Indiana high school students enrolled in one or more vocational courses. Eighty percent of secondary technical and vocational students passed the ISTEP+ Graduation Qualifying Exam and almost ninety percent attained a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent. Content standards, which integrate Indiana's academic standards for English/ language arts, mathematics, science and social studies, have been developed for the majority of vocational courses.

Vocational Education Enrollment



Indiana is actively involved in Project Lead the Way, a national standards-based pre-engineering curriculum that has been introduced in 40 high schools around the state.

A follow-up study of metalworking students revealed that those with Certificates of Technical Achievement – portable, updatable professional certifications developed collaboratively by the DWD, employers, and educators – earned on average 26 percent more per hour than those students who did not receive Certificates.

Plans for the Biennium

Four strategies provide the framework for the Five-Year State Plan for Vocational and Technical Education over the period from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2004:

- Provide career awareness and career preparation for all learners.
- Develop, implement and utilize state-recognized skill standards and other approved systems of certification.
- Provide professional and curricular development, including:
 - Teaching the way students learn;
 - Integrating occupational, employability and academic skills based on business and industry identified skill standards;
 - Reducing gender bias and stereotyping;
- Provide a quality improvement system for vocational and technical education.



The number of schools offering vocational programs in a career academy/career major design will be expanded. These academies include career areas in Information Technology, Finance, Advanced Manufacturing, Health Sciences, and Hotel/Lodging Management. Activities are also planned to ensure that more students take and pass industry exams leading to national certificates recognized and valued by high skill/high wage industries.

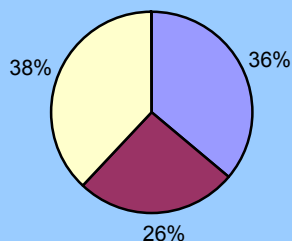
As a part of our involvement in Project Lead the Way, Indiana has entered into a national partnership to develop a new pre-engineering course in Biotechnology. Indiana will host the national curriculum development team and relationships are being forged with the state's postsecondary biomedical/biotechnology programs as well as businesses and industries involved in Indiana's life sciences initiatives.

Program: 0015

	Actual FY 2001	Actual FY 2002	Estimate FY 2003	Appropriation FY 2004	Appropriation FY 2005
(All Funds)	\$106,494,869	\$105,129,192	\$112,188,634	\$121,142,942	\$125,263,426

**Sources of Funds
FY 2004 (Approp)**

☐ General
 ☐ Dedicated
 ☐ Federal
 ☐ Other



**Uses of Funds
FY 2004 (Approp)**

☐ Personal Services
 ☐ Distributions
 ☐ Capital
 ☐ Other

